

Application Number 10/583991
Response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2008

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 has been amended to include limitations as supported by the specification at page 22, lines 6-16 and table 1-1 at page 39.

Claims 1 and 4-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Omine et al. (Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 02-263810) in view of Nakagawa et al. (Canadian Patent No. 2,335,777). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Omine discloses a vinyl chloride copolymer including vinyl chloride, a macromonomer, fatty acid vinyl ester and/or alkyl (meth)acrylate obtained by radical polymerization (see page 6, lines 9-12 of the translation PTO 06-1073, hereinafter pages and lines of Omine referred to in this remarks are those in the translation). The reference, however, fails to disclose that the soft vinyl chloride copolymer resin has no yield point when tested under JIS K7133 at the 50 mm/min pulling rate as claim 1 requires. By having the property of no yield point, the soft vinyl chloride copolymer resin of claim 1 is internally plasticized and can form a soft molded article at room temperature without including a plasticizer (see page 18, lines 16-19 of the specification). Accordingly, claim 1 is distinguished from Omine.

Nakagawa discloses a production method of polymers of a macromonomer by living radical polymerization (see page 3, lines 21-24). Nakagawa further discloses a copolymer made of the macromonomer and other monomer (II) (see page 5, lines 19-23). Nakagawa, however, fails to disclose that the copolymer or other copolymers including the macromonomer have no yield point when tested under JIS K7133 at the 50 mm/min pulling rate as claim 1 requires. Thus, Nakagawa does not remedy the deficiencies of Omine.

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Accordingly, claim 1 is distinguished from Omine in view of Nakagawa, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.



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DPM/my/ad

Respectfully submitted,

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